

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, November 18, 2013, 4:30pm, at the Parks Office (Kalberer Rd). Present at said meeting were Patrick Flannelly, Karen Springer, John MacDonald and Aimee Jacobsen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Lee Booth, Chris Foley, Bess Witcosky, Dan Dunten and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Council President, Ann Hunt, also attended. Absent from the meeting were Park Board member Richard Shockley and Council members Gerald Thomas and Gerry Keen.

Pat convened the Board at 4:33pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the October 21, 2013 meeting. Karen motioned to approve the minutes. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Superintendent** – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing
- Reported we received a couple of “Thank You’s”, one from the Alzheimer’s Association for use of Cumberland Park for the 2013 Walk to End Alzheimer’s and the other from Cumberland Elementary School for our contribution to Cumberland Family Math Night.

**Assistant Superintendent** – Pennie reported on the following:

- Assistive Hearing System was the low quote for the looping system for the Lilly Nature Center. The quote was \$5,998.00 and will be paid for with CDBG Funds.
- I’ve been working on ADA issues for the City. The City received a letter from the Federal Highway Administration concerning the accessibility of the City’s website. We have hired gh, LLC which is a local business to check our website for accessibility issues.
- I have been watching many webinars to learn about ADA issues such as playground surfacing and outdoor developed areas, of which I have two more to watch this week.

**Parks** – Pennie reported in Lee’s absence on the following:

- Inspections
- Closed parks and winterized all drinking fountains
- Started repairing and painting the benches at the pool
- Prepared the rink, hoping to make ice this Sunday
- Started cleanup of storm damage from yesterday

**Recreation** – Chris reported on the following:

- Grade school basketball was scheduled to start today for second and third graders. Since the WL Schools were closed today, the program will begin next Monday.
- The Ice Rink staff has been hired. Lee and his staff will be making ice as soon as the weather cooperates, hopefully this weekend.
- If the weather cooperates, the Ice Rink should be open on the scheduled Friday after Thanksgiving.
- We are working to change the coding of our programs to allow us to get online registration up and running.

**Morton Center** – Bess reported on the following:

- Summer numbers for registration are available - Summer 2013 had 1,248 enrollees compared to Summer 2012, which had 1,003.
- WALLA classes were completed as of Nov. 7. They were very smooth on Morton's end, in terms of logistics. I will be their keynote speaker at the annual luncheon.
- Our seasonal workshops have been going well, a little hit or miss. The Gingerbread House is a huge hit, as usual, as well as the holiday gift-giving workshops.
- I met with Captain Sparger last week to discuss some safety concerns, specifically how to deal with unwanted guests at Morton. We will be communicating and collaborating more with the WLPD in the future on offering RAD classes and some other community services from the WLPD.
- Reminded everyone that next month's Park Board meeting will be held at Morton Community Center in Room 108.

**Stewardship** – Dan reported on the following:

**Eagle Scout Project**

- The fourth Eagle Scout project for the year was completed last Saturday. It involved putting in a new 840 ft. mulched path at the Celery Bog Nature Area, plus a wood bench near the entrance to the trail. It is located at the south end of the woods, closer to Lindberg Rd., and connects up with the rest of our 1 ½ mile trail system.

**Celery Bog Nature Area Improvements**

- Planted 10 additional 6' – 8' trees along the entrance drive and around the Outdoor Classroom
- Dug up 8 small blue ash trees from Clegg Gardens Nature Area for transplanting on the grounds. These blue ash are supposedly more resistant to the Emerald Ash Borer.
- A concrete slab was poured between the Outdoor Classroom stage and the benches. This will expand the stage area and provide for easy ADA accessibility, plus a place for wheel chair parking.
- Re-landscaping the entrance off Lindberg Rd. We added approximately 30 large rocks given to Joe, plus some low-growing junipers and black chokeberry. Next spring we will add native wildflowers.

**Old Business**

n/a

**New Business**

**2014 NRO Budget**

Chris presented information and requested approval to the 2014 Nonreverting Operating budget. Discussion followed, including the accrued credit card fees and the rising costs. Aimee motioned to approve the budget as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**2014 Part-Time Salaries**

Chris presented information and requested approval for the annual part-time salaries. Karen motioned to approve the part-time salaries as presented. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Joe provided a follow-up on the proposal from the New Chauncey Neighborhood Association and the West Lafayette Public Library. Joe spoke to Nick Schenkel and they plan to move ahead on the project, but probably not until spring. They will determine which park will work best for them, Lincoln Park or Paula R. Woods Park. Updates to follow.

**West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:**

- Rachel Witt has been chosen to fill the remaining term of Dottie Rausch. Rachel is an artist and has been very active in the Parent Councils in the schools. Her appointment is through December 31, 2014.
- While only the Jr/Sr High School was without power, yet this morning, all schools were cancelled because consultations with the police department this morning indicated some roads were blocked by downed trees and power was still off for 1/3 of West Lafayette.

**Wabash River**

- Andy reported there has not been a meeting since the last time we met.

**Other**

Chris noted to the Board members she distributed the ice rink information and it was available for the taking. Chris wanted to send along her congratulations to Amanda Mann of Cumberland School for her selection as Counselor of the Year. Chris reported she has worked with Amanda, while on a committee with the City, noting Amanda's importance to the school.

Ann Hunt reminded everyone of the Thanksgiving Market on 11/27/13 from 3-5pm, noting that not all of the vendors will there.

**Pay Claims**

Karen motioned for claims to be paid. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Adjourn**

Aimee motioned to adjourn the meeting. John seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 4:47pm.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary